

**District Attorney Application** 

County you are applying for: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Thank you for your interest in serving Wisconsin as a District Attorney. To be considered, you must complete this application form. If you need additional space for any answers on this form, you may attach additional pages and **clearly indicate which question you are addressing**.

**REMINDER:** Do not forget to attach the following documents to your application:

- Your resume;
- Your cover letter;
- Two writing samples;
- Your answers to question 41;
- Your waiver, notice of disclosure, and affidavit; and
- Any necessary attachments (e.g., explanations).

**SUBMISSION:** Your application and materials must be emailed to: **govDAapp@wisconsin.gov** 

**NEXT STEPS:** After you submit your application materials, the Governor's Office will review the application for completeness and accuracy. Complete and accurate applications will be reviewed by the Governor's Office of Legal Counsel for consideration. If you are selected for an interview, the Office of Legal Counsel will contact you to setup an interview. The selection will base be based on your materials, references, interview, and any other information it deems relevant. Applicants who are not selected to continue through the application process will be notified.

#### Section 1: Personal information

1. Provide the following personal information:

Name (Last, First, Middle)		Date of birth (MM/DD/YEAR)
Email address	Home phon	e
Work phone	Cell phone	
Place of birth (City, State)	Gender	
Wisconsin State Bar Number	Race	

Maiden/alias/former name(s)	Dates used (MM/YR - MM/YR)

- 2. Are you a United States Citizen? \_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
- 3. List each residential address you have had in the last 10 years:

City, State, Zip	Dates you lived at the address (MM/YR – MM/YR)
	City, State, Zip

## Section 2: Familial information

- 4. What is your current marital status: \_\_\_\_ Married, \_\_\_\_ Not married
- 5. If you are married, answer the following:

Spouse's name (Last, First, Middle)	Date of birth (MM/DD/YEAR)
Date of marriage	Place of birth (city, state)

Spouse's maiden/alias/former name(s)	Dates used (MM/YR – MM/YR)

6. List your spouse or partner's three most recent occupations, beginning with their current or most recent employer:

Employer	Employer's address	Occupation / Job title	Dates of employment (MM/YR – MM/YR)

7. If you have ever been divorced, answer the following for each former spouse:

n and employer
):

Ex-spouses' name (Last, First, Middle)	Date of birth (MM/DD/YEAR)
Date of marriage	Ex-spouse's occupation and employer

Ex-spouses' name (Last, First, Middle)	Date of birth (MM/DD/YEAR)
Date of marriage	Ex-spouse's occupation and employer

8. If you have children or step-children, provide the following information:

Name of child	Age	State of residence	Occupation and employer

## Section 3: Education background

9. List the name and location of each school you attended, beginning with high school:

Name of school	Location (City, State)	Dates attended (MM/YR – MM/YR)	Degree earned

10. List any scholarships, awards, honors, or citations you received during college, graduate school, or law school.

- 11. While attending any secondary school or college, have you ever been expelled, suspended, placed on probation, or withdrawn from enrollment due to an allegation of academic dishonesty or because of conduct that harmed or could have harmed others? \_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_ No
- 12. If yes, provide the following information:

Name & location of school	Date conduct occurred (MM/YEAR)
Nature of conduct	Disposition / outcome
Details of incident	

#### Section 4: Professional background and experience

13. List each court and administrative body in which you have been admitted to practice:

Bar admission	Date of admission (MM/YR)

14. If any of your admissions listed above have lapsed, state when and why the admission lapsed.

15. List all your places of employment for the last 10 years, including periods of unemployment, beginning with your most recent employer.

Employer	Employer's address	Occupation / Job title	Dates of employment (MM/YR – MM/YR)

- 16. If you served in the military, provide the particulars of your service, including: the dates of service, the branch of service, rank or rate, and type of discharge received.
- 17. Within the past 10 years, has your employment ended for one of the following reasons: you were fired; you resigned after being told you would be fired; you left by mutual agreement following allegations of misconduct or unsatisfactory performance; or you left for other reasons under unfavorable circumstances?
  \_\_\_\_Yes, \_\_\_\_No
- 18. If yes, provide the following information:

Employer's address	
Date of separation (MM/YEAR)	

19. Provide the following information if, within the past 10 years, an employer investigated you or disciplined you due to actual or alleged misconduct:

Employer	Employer's address
Nature of allegation or misconduct	Disposition of investigation
Explanation	

## Section 5: Legal practice

20. Describe your management experience.

21. Describe your experience in criminal law.

22. List up to three cases in which you participated as a lawyer that highlight your skills as an attorney:

Case name	Citation
Venue	Name(s) and telephone number(s) of opposing counsel
Briefly describe the case and your involvement	nt

Case name	Citation
Venue	Name(s) and telephone number(s) of
	opposing counsel
Briefly describe the case and your involvement	nt

Case name	Citation
Venue	Name(s) and telephone number(s) of opposing counsel
Briefly describe the case and your involvement	nt

## 23. Provide totals for the following. Indicate if the number is an estimate.

Number of felony criminal jury trials you have first-chaired:	
Number of misdemeanor jury trial you have first-chaired:	
Number of civil jury trials you have first-chaired or co-chaired:	
Estimated number of plea bargains you have negotiated:	

24. Describe your non-litigation legal experience.

25. Summarize any speeches or presentations you have given in the past five years about the law, including: the date of the speech or presentation and the organization to which you presented.

26. List any articles or publications you have authored about the law. Include a citation or hyperlink to each article or publication.

#### Section 5: Professional and public service

27. Identify your participation in professional associations.

Name of association	Offices held and committees served on	Awards, honors, or citations	Dates of participation

28. Identify your participation in civic and charitable organizations.

Name of organization	Offices held and committees served	Awards, honors, or citations	Dates of participation
	on		F

29. Do you currently belong to, or have you ever belonged to, any organization that discriminates on the basis of gender identity, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation, through membership requirements or membership policies? If so, identify the organization, the dates in which you belonged to the organization, and what, if anything you did to change such requirements or policies.

#### 30. Identify all public offices to which you were appointed or elected.

Name of office	Elected or appointed?	Dates of service

31. Identify any awards or honors you have received in the past 10 years, which have not been listed elsewhere on this application.

Entity providing the award or honor	Name of the award or honor	Date received (MM/YEAR)

32. Describe any significant pro bono legal work or volunteer service you have performed.

#### Section 6: Business interests

33. If you or your spouse are a director, officer, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business entity, provide the following information:

Name of the business	Nature of the business	Duties you or your spouse perform	You or your spouse's intended involvement if you are appointed

## Section 7: Previous partisan or non-partisan political involvement

34. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a judicial, non-partisan, or partisan political campaign, committee, or organization, describe your involvement, including the dates of participation.

35. If you have ever run for public office, provide the following information:

Office sought	Date of primary election	Date of general election	Outcome / percentage of vote you obtained

36. If you have ever publicly endorsed a judicial or non-partisan candidate in the past ten years, provide the following information:

Name of endorsed candidate	Office sought by candidate	Year of endorsement

#### Section 8: Character and fitness

37. Answer the following questions. If you answer "no" to any of the following questions, you must attach a detailed explanation of why you answered no.

	Yes	No
a. Are you in good standing with each jurisdiction in which you are admitted		
to practice law?		
b. Are you current with your continuing legal education requirements in		
each state in which you are admitted to practice law?		
c. Are you free of any physical or mental impairment that in any way would		
limit your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of		
the judiciary in a competent and professional manner?		
d. Have you met every deadline imposed by a court order or obtained an		
extension when needed?		

38. Answer the following questions. If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, you must attach a detailed explanation of why you answered yes.

	Yes	No
a. Has any tribunal ever held you in contempt or otherwise formally		
reprimanded or sanctioned you?		
b. Have you ever been disciplined, reprimanded, or sanctioned by any		
regulatory or licensing entity?		
c. Have you ever been party to a lawsuit, either as a plaintiff or a defendant?		
d. Have you ever been subject to an investigation by the Wisconsin Judicial		
Commission, the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the Office of Lawyer Regulation,		
the Crime Victim Rights Board, or any other equivalent entity in any		
jurisdiction?		
e. If you are a quasi-judicial officer, have you ever been disciplined or		
reprimanded by a sitting judge?		
f. Has a tax lien ever been filed against you?		
g. Were all of your taxes (federal, state, local) current as of the date of your		
application?		
h. Have you or your spouse ever been subject of any audit, investigation, or		
inquiry for either federal, state, or local taxes?		
i. Have you or your spouse ever filed for bankruptcy?		
j. Is there anything in your current or past financial situation that would		
affect your ability to be a judge or justice?		

39. Are there any circumstances in your professional or personal life that might interfere or create a substantial question as to your qualifications to serve as District Attorney? If so, provide a detailed explanation.

## 40. Provide three references, two of which must be practicing attorneys or judges.

Name	Occupation
Address	Phone Number

Name	Occupation
Address	Phone Number

Name	Occupation
Address	Phone Number

#### Section 10: Additional information for consideration

- 41. Attach your answers to the following questions. Each answer must be 500 words or less.
  - a. Why do you want to serve the people of Wisconsin as a District Attorney?
  - b. District Attorneys have significant discretion in how to charge and prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction. Describe your charging and prosecuting philosophy.
  - c. Describe your philosophy regarding alternative dispositions (e.g. deferred judgments) and restorative justice.
  - d. Wisconsin faces a variety of inequities in the criminal justice system. Please describe the inequities you see in the region to which you are applying and how you plan to address those inequities.

- 42. Attach two writing samples.
- 43. Do you wish to request that your application remain confidential to the extent permitted by law? Please note that state law only provides limited protections. Also, a request for confidentiality will not adversely affect your application.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_ No

## Waiver and Authorization

I hereby authorize the Office of the Governor or his staff to solicit information and records pertaining to me from any or all of the following sources:

- 1. My present employer.
- 2. My previous employers.
- 3. Any school, college, university, or other educational institution that I attended.
- 4. Any place of business.
- 5. Any governmental agency or political subdivision.
- 6. The Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

I further authorize any recipient of a request for information from the Governor or his staff to provide any such information as may be necessary to consider my application.

Signature:	 Date:	

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Notice of Disclosure**

I acknowledge and understand that my application and its attachments will become public records once they are submitted to the Office of the Governor. I further acknowledge and understand that, while state law provides limited confidentiality protections, most of my application and its attachments are subject to disclosure to the general public under the Public Records Law.

Signature:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Affidavit

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_, do swear that the information provided in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

Signature:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn and subscribed to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_

Notary Public, State of Wisconsin My commission: \_\_\_\_\_